California Department of Fish and Game

Dear Reporter:

Thank you for downloading the Department of Fish and Game Marine Region's media kit.

This kit provides reporters with key information to get them started on developing in-depth stories about the Marine Region's activities. We will update the kits as needed, so check back often for updated materials.

The Marine Life Management Act (MLMA) and Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative information will provide reporters with quick facts and key time lines for reporters to use to generate stories. The Milestones page will be useful for reporters to gain in-depth information on recent activities under the MLMA, such as the Nearshore and Market Squid Fishery Management Plans, the Master Plan, and Status of the Fisheries Report.

The Story Ideas component is organized by subject from A to Z, allowing reporters to easily peruse the information. This document highlights key programs underway for marine resources and also serves to underscore the Marine Region's mission through its numerous programs geared toward achieving sustainable resources as outlined under the MLMA and MLPA.

The Frequently Asked Questions pages for the MLMA and MLPA will provide reporters with an easy source to learn more about the two acts.

Lastly, we plan for this on-line media kit to eventually include several visual components for reporters to utilize as part of in-depth stories, including numerous marine fish photos, maps, and fish identification pages. Currently, visual components may be obtained by contacting Carrie Wilson at (831) 649-7191, or e-mail cwilson@dfg.ca.gov.

Your comments and feedback are always welcome. I look forward to your response.

Thank you,

Carrie Wilson
Marine Region Communications Coordinator

The Marine Life Management Act of 1998

The act's overriding goal is to...
Ensure the conservation, sustainable use and restoration of California's living marine resources, including the conversion of healthy and diverse marine ecosystems.

The Marine Life Management Act (MLMA):
- Was passed by the California Legislature and signed into law in 1998.
- Effective Jan. 1, 1999.
- In 1999, state provided $5.2 million to fund the program.
- Applies to all living marine resources along state's 1,100 miles of coast.
- Applies to all state managed marine fisheries (recreational and commercial).

MLMA calls for the Department of Fish and Game to take several actions, including:
- The transfer of management authority of several fisheries from the state Legislature to the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG).
- Development of a master plan that will guide development of management plans aimed at restoring declining fish populations as designed under the MLMA.
- Development of a plan for dealing with emerging fisheries as they become operational.
- Fish and Game Commission adoption of the DFG management plans for white seabass (adopted April 2002), and the nearshore fishery (adopted August 2002).

The MLMA Program For Managing Marine Fisheries:
- Requires evaluating the effectiveness of existing programs.
- Requires DFG to utilize the best scientific data available, and to engage the public in the process of developing management plans.
- Requires DFG to prepare the status of the fisheries report. Subsequently, reports will cover one-quarter of all marine and estuary fisheries managed by the state.

A Collaborative Effort:
- Department of Fish and Game
- California Sea Grant Extension Program
- UC/CSU
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- Pacific Fishery Management Council
- Private scientific community
- Constituent Advisory Committees
- Public

DFG Marine Enforcement: "*Make A Difference"*
- Work with recreational anglers, commercial fishermen, and the general public.
- DFG patrols more than 250,000 square miles of ocean.
- State waters occur from coastline to up to three miles out to sea.
- 57 marine patrol enforcement positions; five new marine patrol boats.

MLMA MILESTONES

NEARSHORE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The state's most comprehensive management plan ever developed for ocean fishing.

Background

Nearshore fisheries have existed for decades. But a recent market for live fish used in the restaurant business and shipped overseas, started in Southern California in th 1980s and since then ricocheted to Northern and Central California. As of 2001, the landings of live finfish in California have increased from 20,000 pounds worth $20,000 to 1.2 million pounds worth more than $1.3 million. Because fishermen primarily target small, immature nearshore fishes, increasing numbers of fish are being harvested before most get a chance to reproduce. When the effects of this new commercial fishery are added to the already substantial recreational fishery, it becomes clear that nearshore fish populations have been placed under enormous fishing pressure. The Legislature under the Marine Life Management Act decided to take a comprehensive approach to managing the nearshore fishery.

The Plan

The Nearshore FMP will guide the state's management of recreational and commercial fisheries along the coast. The plan aims to conserve and protect the nearshore ecosystem and its marine stocks, including 13 species of rockfish, California sheephead, greenlings, cabezon, and scorpionfish. Because all rockfishes are covered under the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Groundfish Management Plan, DFG is coordinating with the PFMC and NOAA Fisheries to ensure conformity with federal regulations.

DFG staff met with interested individuals and organizations across the state to ensure broad participation in the development of the plan. In addition, a Nearshore Advisory Committee, composed of commercial fishermen, recreational anglers, divers and environmentalists, was also established to provide DFG and the Commission with management recommendations for the plan.

Facts

California's nearshore ecosystem is known as one of the most productive ocean areas in the world, encompassing 2,550 sq. miles and generating more than $40 million in revenue. The DFG's ecosystem approach to managing the state's nearshore fishery relies heavily on good science and is the result of landmark legislation.

The Nearshore FMP is available online at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/nfmp/index.html.

WHITE SEABASS FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

White seabass are making a comeback from previous low population levels only a few decades ago.

The Marine Life Management Act calls for a White Seabass Fishery Management Plan, which was originally adopted by the Fish and Game Commission in March of 1996. A final draft of the plan was amended and brought into compliance with the Marine Life Management Act, and became law on April 4, 2002.

White seabass are large, highly prized fish of the croaker family that are sought by both recreational and commercial fishermen. They occur in waters primarily off the coast of Southern California. Historically, their range has been as far north as the San Francisco Bay area. White seabass are recovering in California's ocean waters from low population levels of the mid-to-late 1900s. The current recovery is occurring under management designed to provide for moderate harvests while protecting young white seabass and spawning adults through season, size, bag, and gear provisions.

To view the plan, log on to www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/wsfmp/index.html. A white seabass fact sheet is also available at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/factsheet.pdf.

THE MASTER PLAN: A GUIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS AS DIRECTED BY THE MARINE LIFE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1998.

The Master Plan will serve as a roadmap for DFG's development of management plans for California's fisheries.

The Marine Life Management Act, which became law on Jan. 1, 1999, requires DFG to develop a master plan that specifies the process and resources needed to prepare, adopt, and implement fishery management plans (FMPs) for sport and commercial marine fisheries managed by the state. The master plan must also provide a prioritized list of fisheries for future FMPs, describe ongoing and additional DFG data collection activities conducted to acquire essential fishery information, provide a process for meaningful constituent involvement in the development of FMPs, and specify a review process for the master plan.

To download a copy, log on to www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/masterplan/index.html.

CALIFORNIA'S MARINE LIVING RESOURCES: A STATUS REPORT

The best information available for marine and estuarine fisheries managed by the state

The status of the fisheries report is a fourth edition in a series of reports that address the status of California's marine and anadromous fisheries, and other marine life. The first report was published in December, 2001. Under the MLMA, future annual reports should cover one-quarter of all marine and estuarine fisheries managed by the state. *California's Living Marine Resources* is available online at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/status/index.html.

MARKET SQUID FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

A management program for California's market squid resource that will ensure sustainability and reduce the potential for overfishing

The Market Squid Fishery Management Plan (MSFMP) was adopted by the California Fish and Game Commission on August 27, 2004.

The MSFMP establishes a management program for California's market squid resource, including new regulations and a restricted access program that will limit the number of vessels in the fishing fleet. The MSFMP also institutes ecosystem and habitat protections, which include closing areas to market squid fishing in the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and other areas.

The California market squid, popularly known in restaurants as "calamari," ranges from southeastern Alaska to Baja California, Mexico. In 2003, the fleet landed more than 90 million pounds (45,200 tons) of squid worth $24.1 million. The squid resource is also an important source of bait for the state's recreational fisheries and is a valuable forage item for marine fish, birds and marine mammals.

For information on the MSFMP, check out DFG's website at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/marketsquid/index.html.

Marine Life Management Act FAQs

Question: What is the Marine Life Management Act?

Answer: In 1998, the Marine Life Management Act (MLMA), also known as AB1241, or the Keeley Bill after its author, was passed by the California Legislature and signed into law. In 1999, the state provided $5.2 million in funding to begin full implementation of the new legislation. The MLMA opened a new era in the management and conservation of all living marine resources in California. The act's overriding goal is to ensure the conservation, sustainable use and restoration of California's living marine resources, including the conservation of healthy and diverse marine ecosystems.

Question: How will the MLMA be implemented?

Answer: The MLMA requires all of us to take new approaches to the formidable task of conserving the state's marine life and stewardship of healthy fisheries. To achieve this goal, new conservation measures and management plans for the state's fisheries will ensue. And fisheries managers will use the best available science and take stock of the effectiveness of programs. The MLMA also calls for involving "all interested parties" in making decisions regarding living marine resources.

Question: How will these management decisions be made and who will be involved?

Answer: The MLMA calls for informed citizen involvement by all Californians who benefit from the state's marine resources. DFG will foster key relationships with constituents, including consumptive and non-consumptive users, to help guide management decisions. Hopefully this process will garner constituent support for new management decisions and ultimately, ensure that marine resources remain intact. Stakeholders are key players in this new management system. Knowing and understanding the expectations of constituents is critical when determining the most appropriate long-term objectives for the state's fisheries. To better facilitate DFG's efforts to engage the public in developing fishery management plans, a public outreach team was composed to garner support.

Question: What is a "fishery management plan" ?

Answer: A fishery management plan (FMP) is a document that describes the nature and problems of a fishery and offers regulatory recommendations to manage that

fishery. In essence, it is a planning document that contains all the necessary information to make informed decisions on fishing opportunities that are geared toward maintaining sustainable marine resources. A fishery management plan is the vehicle used for a comprehensive approach to managing marine resources. Under the MLMA, fishery management plans will provide:

- Biological information about the marine resources under consideration
- Habitat needs and issues
- User groups and their fishing practices
- Conservation and management measures already in place
- The ecological role of the resource
- The environmental effects that might have to be considered
- The most appropriate management tools

These FMPs are based on the best scientific data and relevant information available. Fishery management plans are required to allocate any increases or decreases in allowable catches fairly between commercial and recreational users.

Question: What is the "Master Plan"?

Answer: The Master Plan is literally a "road map" to how California fisheries will be managed. Specifically, the Master Plan will include: a prioritized list of fisheries in need of fishery management plans; a process for how the public may be involved in developing fishery management and research plans; a description of the essential fishery information that will be needed to effectively manage the top priority fisheries; and a process of how these various plans will be amended or revised. The Master Plan is a first step in making clear and explicit, the complex process of fisheries management.

Question: How has the Marine Life Management Act changed the responsibilities of the California Department of Fish and Game and the Fish and Game Commission?

Answer: Prior to the passage of the MLMA in 1998, the responsibility for managing most of California's marine resources harvested by commercial fisheries lay with the State Legislature. The Department of Fish and Game and the Fish and Game Commission managed the recreational fisheries and those commercial fisheries which had catch quotas that changed periodically. Management of commercial fisheries under this division of responsibility was complicated, piecemeal, and oftentimes untimely. Necessary regulatory changes only occurred after much political deliberation and approval by both the Assembly and the Senate. In addition, this division of authority often resulted in laws and regulations that were inappropriate for the sustainability of the resource. The MLMA transfers permanent management authority to the Fish and

Game Commission for the nearshore finfish fishery, the white seabass fishery, emerging fisheries, and other fisheries for which the Commission had some management authority prior to January 1, 1999.

Question: How is the public going to share in the responsibility of managing the living marine resources of California?

Answer: One of the changes the MLMA set into motion was to make the regulatory planning and decision-making process more open to the public. The Act instructs the Department and Commission to "involve all interested parties, including, but not limited to, individuals from the sport and commercial fishing industries, aquaculture industries, coastal and ocean tourism and recreation industries, marine conservation organizations, local governments, marine scientists and the public." To achieve this mandate several communication tools are being employed: The MLMA Evaluation Advisory Committee was created to advise the Department on implementation of all aspects of the MLMA. The Advisory Committee is composed of appointed representatives from the recreational and commercial fishing communities, the conservation and environmental community, and the scientific community. The Department and the Fish and Game Commission have made the regulatory process more accessible to their constituents by holding public meetings at several locations across the state and during hours more encouraging to public involvement. The Department and the Fish and Game Commission are using the Internet to inform more of the public about meetings and management activities in the marine environment. By making information more accessible and timely, the public may become better informed and enter into management discussions early in the processes.

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Story Ideas

ABALONE

Abalone Research Going High-Tech

Marine scientists from DFG, academic institutes, and nongovernmental organizations are now using high-tech remotely operated vehicles, scuba, and submarine technology for research on the newly listed (endangered) white abalone, the candidate black abalone, and other threatened species. Along the North Coast of California, there is ongoing research on density studies, stock assessment, size frequency distributions, and habitat characterization of the red abalone. DFG is also continuing the "creel survey," a 25-year collection of information on the recreational abalone fishery.

Biologists from DFG are currently working with abalone experts from around the world to write a fishery management and recovery plan for abalone in California.

CALIFORNIA SEA OTTERS

California Sea Otters Serve as a Sentinal of Marine Ecosystem Health

California sea otters are currently listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. In the late 1990s, the sea otter population declined after several years of growth. Range-wide population counts now hover between 2,220 and 2,300 individuals. The cause of the decline may have implications for the health and sustainability of nearshore marine ecosystems.

The DFG's Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center (MWRDC) does cooperative research on sea otter biology and diseases, and uses the data it collects as an indicator for marine ecosystem health. Working with the USGS/BRD, UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis, and the Monterey Bay Aquarium, a suite of research studies address questions of foraging ecology, distribution and abundance, contaminant and disease exposure, and causes of mortality related to human activity.

A small number sea otters lives at the MWRDC as part of the university-based non-invasive research projects. In addition, the MWRDC examines dead sea otters, marine mammals, and birds to determine causes of death.

FISH *and* FISHING

Witness One of Nature's Most Spectacular Sights - Grunion Spawning!

Considered by some to be the ocean's equivalent of a "snipe hunt," California grunion are real and the stories you may have heard about grunion runs are true. On nights with the highest tides from March through September, grunion come ashore on sandy beaches in Southern California to spawn. Female grunions insert themselves in

the sand, tail first, in an upright position, while the surrounding males attempt to fertilize the eggs she deposits. To learn more about the life history of these amazing little fish, visit the DFG's Web site at: www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/grnindx3.html. Also, the DFG provides a schedule of predicted grunion runs that are available online at: www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/gruschd.html.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Story Ideas Coming Soon!

RESEARCH *and* SCIENCE

Underwater Studies Document the Effectiveness of Protected Areas

The state's effort to revise and expand its system of Marine Protected Areas is a complex and politically difficult one. Political concerns aside, how do we measure the affect of a fishing closure on fish species? How quickly do they recover? See how biologists design studies, and gather data underwater to interpret the effects of fishing on a long-lived, slow growing family of popular sport and commercially caught fish.

Cutting-Edge Network of Underwater Observation "Sites"

Scientists are developing a cutting-edge network of underwater observation sites to allow monitoring of changes over broad areas. Rather than relying exclusively on fishermen's logs, this program relies on divers and remotely operated vehicles to give a picture of what's going on in the oceans. The network will involve a wide range of scientists and institutions, including University of California and State University campuses.

Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing Technology

Marine research has come of age with a variety of new technologies designed to help biologists and resource managers understand marine ecosystems. Remote sensing includes satellite-based imagery, digital aerial photography, underwater sonar, and multi-beam bathymetry tools. Geographic Information Systems, known as GIS, is a powerful computer-based analysis tool that interprets remotely-sensed data across both time and space. DFG's Marine Region has developed one of the most sophisticated GIS and Remote Sensing labs along the California coast. This lab links its data retrieval and analysis to marine projects being conducted by 10 coastal agencies and educational institutions.

Rockfish Older Than My Grandmother?

Rockfishes of the genus *Sebastes* comprise one of the most economically important groups of commercial and recreational fishes off the California coast. Biologically

diverse, rockfish are found on various types of substrate including rocky bottom, siltstone, shale, sand, and mud ranging from intertidal areas to over 2,400 feet depths. Research has shown that they are residential, long-lived, and have lengthy juvenile life stages. Aging studies show many of these fishes may well out-live their human counterparts!

SEABIRDS

California Plays Roost to More Than 100 Species of Marine Birds

California is the home and migratory stop to more than 100 species of seabirds. These seabirds, including several endangered and threatened species, roost along the California coast on offshore islands and pinnacles, and within bays and estuaries. With an increasing number of Californians and tourists engaging in activities along the coast, many nesting areas are becoming damaged due to human impacts. DFG is involved with seabird research and actively serves on many advisory committees with various agencies, educational institutions, and environmental groups.

SHARKS

Story Ideas Coming Soon!

SQUID

Story Ideas Coming Soon!

UNUSUAL FISH

Ever Wondered What Kind of Fish You've Caught? Just Ask Dr. Lea!

When it comes to rare finds or reports of shark/human interaction, Dr. Robert Lea is the central contact for scientists and fishermen. Dr. Lea keeps current up-to-date records on various unusual fishes that have been found or reported in waters from Alaska to Baja. Dr. Lea specializes in identifying fish species that are reported or caught during unusual oceanographic phenomena, such as upwelling or El Niño events. He has a background in systematics and zoogeography and is always a wealth of information on California's marine resources.

PUBLICATIONS

Story Ideas Coming Soon!

PUBLIC EVENTS

Story Ideas Coming Soon!

California's Fish and Game Commission

Many Californians are not fully aware of the identity, function or responsibilities of the California Fish and Game Commission, and consider it synonymous with the California Department of Fish and Game. Actually, the Commission is a separate entity that has been involved in the management and wise use of California's fish and wildlife resources since 1870.

It is composed of up to five members, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Commissioners are not full-time State employees, but individuals involved in private enterprise with expertise in various wildlife-related fields. They have a staff of eight employees, which handle day-to-day administrative activities. The Commission meets at least eleven times each year to publicly discuss various proposed regulations, permits, licenses, management policies and other subjects within its areas of responsibility. It also holds a variety of special meetings to obtain public input on items of a more localized nature, requests for use permits on certain streams or establishment of new ecological reserves.

Between 1870 and 1940, individual Commissioners served at the pleasure of the Governor. In 1940 the people provided for a Fish and Game Commission in the State Constitution (Article 4, Section 20). The Legislature delegated to the Commission a variety of powers, some general in nature and some very specific. A major responsibility is the formulation of general policies for the conduct of the Department, and the Director is responsible for administering the Department's activities in accordance with these policies. This is the only area in which the Commission is directly involved in Department administration. Its policies concern fisheries and wildlife management, introduction of exotics, use of departmentally-administered land and a variety of other subjects.

Probably the best known responsibility of the Commission is its general regulatory powers function, under which it decides seasons, bag limits and methods of take for game animals and sport fish. In adopting hunting and sport fishing regulations (every three years), the Commission, in each case, holds a series of open public meetings (three for hunting and four for sport fishing) located in various parts of the state, so that individual and group input can be received and considered prior to adoption of new or changed regulations.

Some have criticized the Commission's regulatory powers actions as being nothing more than a rubber stamp for the Department's recommendations. A review of the Commission's actions on various Department recommendations indicates that this is not the case. In many instances, the Commission rejects or substantially modifies actions recommended by the Department, but only where it is convinced that such action is in the best interest of the resource and truly reflects the wishes and needs of the people. It is only natural that the Commission often relies heavily on the Department's biological data and recommendations, since the Department has the largest staff of experts for compiling data on California's wildlife.

In the same sense that the Commission often takes independent action on various Department recommendations, it does this also with recommendations from various hunting interests and claims that it is concerned only with consumptive use of our resources. This is another allegation rapidly refuted by reviewing the facts. Actually, the Commission spends more of its time dealing with matters of environmental quality, additional species protection, and rehabilitation of depleted populations and habitat than it does with matters of consumptive use. This by no means implies that the Commission is totally protectionist-orientated. It is fully aware that optimum use of our renewable wildlife resources must provide for a variety of consumptive and nonconsumptive needs. Wildlife, in contrast with inanimate objects, cannot be stored indefinitely for future use. Seasons and bag limits established on species with adequate reproductive potential reflect the best use of a biological surplus. In these cases, there always is prior provision for ample breeding stock and for a continuing population which can be enjoyed by naturalists, photographers and other nonconsumptive users.

The Commission's powers become increasingly broad as the Legislature gives it further regulatory and management authority. It is clear that the Commission, which can rapidly and expertly deal with resource problems, is often a more effective means of meeting the needs of the people and the resource than is the relatively slow process of legislative change. Coupled with this is an increasing awareness by the Legislature and all Californians that sound species management demands complete control over total use, and that one body, such as the Commission, is the most effective vehicle for controlling all forms of consumptive use--both sport and commercial.

There is sometimes a feeling among the Commissioners that they are greatly overloaded with work and responsibility for their $100-daily, not to exceed $500-monthly, maximum compensation. Still, the Commission continues working as a group of totally dedicated and intensely interested individuals, who fully realize their enormous responsibilities. As they rely on the Department for biological data and expertise, they also rely on all other Californians for recommendations, suggestions and constructive criticism of proposed actions.

The Commissioners' ultimate decisions must reflect not only the biological needs of our fish and wildlife, but also the wishes, needs and desires of all those who enjoy these resources. This is not an easy course to follow, and frequently it leads to conflicts between various interest groups. However, with the interest, understanding and involvement of everyone who appreciates our magnificent fish and wildlife resources, the California Fish and Game Commission will continue along the path of sound and enlightened resource management.

DFG Marine Patrol Boats Protect California's Oceans

Each day, the California Department of Fish and Game's (DFG) marine patrol proudly lives up to its motto, "Make a Difference."


DFG Patrol Vessel *MARLIN*

To maintain this creed, DFG is increasing its presence on the ocean with five new patrol boats. In August, 2004 DFG Director Ryan Broddrick christened the Department's fleet of five state-of-the-art marine patrol boats at a dedication ceremony in Berkeley. Stationed along the coast in major ocean ports, the vessels will enhance the Department's ability to enforce the laws that protect ocean resources against environmental violations off the 1,100-mile California coast.

The five vessels are 58-foot catamarans and are equipped with twin 660-horsepower diesel-powered engines. Each one features cutting-edge technology and speed. Vessels were purchased with funds from the Marine Life Management Act and through legislative appropriations.

The five newly-christened vessels replace some of DFG's larger offshore patrol boats. Using newer and more efficient foil-supported catamaran designs, the new vessels are capable of responding at almost twice the speed, and are more fuel efficient and less costly to operate than their predecessors.

The following are the five new patrol vessels (P/V) and the areas they cover:

- P/V Marlin, Berkeley - San Francisco Bay to Fort Bragg, as well as offshore waters and the Farallon Islands.
- P/V Steelhead, Monterey - Monterey to San Francisco, including the Farallon Islands.
- P/V Swordfish, Ventura - San Luis Obispo County waters in the north to Los Angeles County in the south, as well as around the Channel Islands.
- P/V Coho, Long Beach - Los Angeles basin including the Channel Islands.
- P/V Thresher, Dana Point - All ocean waters from the California/Mexico border to Point Conception, and out to Catalina and San Clemente Islands, as well as all offshore waters.

With the addition of the new patrol boats, the DFG's fleet of enforcement vessels now totals seven. Already online are the P/V Albacore, based out of Eureka and covering the waters from

Crescent City to Fort Bragg, and the P/V Bluefin from Morro Bay, which patrols the waters from Monterey to Pt. Conception.

Each of the new boats carries an 18-foot Zodiac Hurricane skiff and operates an "A" frame hoist system for safe launch and retrieval of the skiff in rough seas. During normal ocean tours, which may last several days, the vessels will carry a permanent crew of four. Each boat includes a lieutenant as skipper, two boarding officers, and a motor vessel engineer.

All of the new boats are capable of patrolling up to 200 miles offshore and have a range of 550 miles per trip. By coordinating the patrol activities of the DFG's fleet with twin-engine aircraft spotters through high-level communication systems, DFG's patrol boats will have overlapping support and can be used for many other types of law enforcement activities, including Homeland Security efforts.

In addition to helping carry out the Department's enforcement mission to enforce current regulations and legislative mandates, these new patrol boats and their crews will also provide Department scientists with research and resource management support, assist with search-and-rescue operations, and respond to major pollution incidents.

Glossary

Adaptive management - In regard to a marine fishery, means a scientific policy that seeks to improve management of biological resources, particularly in areas of scientific uncertainty, by viewing program actions as tools for learning. Actions shall be designed so that even if they fail, they will provide useful information for future actions. Monitoring and evaluation shall be emphasized so that the interaction of different elements within the system can be better understood.

Bycatch - Means fish or other marine life that are taken in a fishery but which are not the target of the fishery. "Bycatch" includes discards.

Depressed - With regard to a marine fishery, means the condition of a fishery for which the best available scientific information, and other relevant information that the commission or department possesses or receives, indicates a declining population trend has occurred over a period of time appropriate to that fishery. With regard to fisheries for which management is based on maximum sustainable yield, or in which a natural mortality rate is available, "depressed" means the condition of a fishery that exhibits declining fish population abundance levels below those consistent with maximum sustainable yield.

Discards - Means fish that are taken in a fishery but are not retained because they are of an undesirable species, size, sex, or quality, or because they are required by law not to be retained.

Emerging fishery –
A new fishery that the Director has determined is an “emerging fishery”, based on criteria approved by the Commission and that reflect a trend of increased landings or participants in the fishery, and the degree of existing regulations of the fishery.

Essential fishery information - With regard to a marine fishery, means information about fish life history and habitat requirements; the status and trends of fish populations, fishing effort, and catch levels; fishery effects on fish age structure and on other marine living resources and users, and any other information related to the biology of a fish species or to taking in the fishery that is necessary to permit fisheries to be managed according to the requirements of this code.

Fish - Means wild fish, mollusks, crustaceans, invertebrates, or amphibians, including any part, spawn, or ova thereof.

Fishery - Means either of the following:

a. One or more populations of marine fish or marine plants that may be treated as a unit for purposes of conservation and management and that are identified on the basis of geographical, scientific, technical, recreational, and economic characteristics.

b. Fishing for or harvesting of the populations described in (a).

Limited entry fishery - Means a fishery in which the number of persons who may participate or the number of vessels that may be used in taking a specified species of fish is limited by statute or regulation. (Note that limited entry is a type of restricted access. See Appendix D.)

Marine living resources - Includes all wild mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, and plants that normally occur in or are associated with salt water, and the marine habitats upon which these animals and plants depend for their continued viability.

Maximum sustainable yield - In a marine fishery means the highest average yield over time that does not result in a continuing reduction in stock abundance, taking into account fluctuations in abundance and environmental variability.

Nearshore fish stocks - Means any of the following: rockfish (genus Sebastes) for which size limits are established under this article, California sheephead (*Semicossyphus pulcher*), greenlings of the genus Hexagrammos, cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*), scorpionfish (*Scorpaena guttata*), and may include other species of finfish found primarily in rocky reef or kelp habitat in nearshore waters.

Nearshore fisheries - Means the commercial or recreational take or landing of any species of nearshore finfish stocks.

Nearshore waters - Means the ocean waters of the state extending from the shore to one nautical mile from land, including one nautical mile around offshore rocks and islands.

Optimum yield - With regard to a marine fishery, means the amount of fish taken in a fishery that does all of the following:

a. Provides the greatest overall benefit to the people of California, particularly with respect to food production and recreational opportunities, and takes into account the protection of marine ecosystems.

b. Is the maximum sustainable yield of the fishery, as reduced by relevant economic, social, or ecological factors.

c. In the case of an overfished fishery, provides for rebuilding to a level consistent with producing maximum sustainable yield in the fishery.

Overfished - With regard to a marine fishery, means both of the following:

a. A depressed fishery.

b. A reduction of take in the fishery is the principal means for rebuilding the population.

Overfishing - Means a rate or level of taking that the best available scientific information, and other relevant information that the commission or department possesses or receives, indicates is not sustainable or that jeopardizes the capacity of a marine fishery to produce the maximum sustainable yield on a continuing basis.

Participants - In regard to a fishery means the sportfishing, commercial fishing, and fish receiving and processing sectors of the fishery.

Population or **Stock** - Means a species, subspecies, geographical grouping, or other category of fish capable of management as a unit.

Restricted access - With regard to a marine fishery, means a fishery in which the number of persons who may participate, or the number of vessels that may be used in taking a specified species of fish, or the catch allocated to each fishery participant, is limited by statute or regulation. (Note that there are several types of restricted access, including limited entry and individual quotas. See Appendix D.)

Sustainable, Sustainable Use, and Sustainability - With regard to a marine fishery, mean both of the following:

a. Continuous replacement of resources, taking into account fluctuations in abundance and environmental variability.

b. Securing the fullest possible range of present and long-term economic, social, and ecological benefits, maintaining biological diversity, and, in the case of fishery management based on maximum sustainable yield, taking in a fishery that does not exceed optimum yield.